# AN APOSTROPHE

From the LOYAL PARTY

## To The King's Most Sacred Majesty:

*Humbly shewing how the next House of Commons by Law may be purged of its dis-affected Members.*

*Great King,*

WHom God has chosen to be his Anointed, and for whose Preservation Wonders and Miracles were done to that degree, as to joy the Faithful, and confound the Incredulous; It was for this that God touched the heart of a Woman, and made her become another *Judeth* to pass through the *Assyrians* Camp, at the same time that *Bethulia* was besieged, to the end she might deliver the Kingdom and People from the fury of the Enemy; *Judeth* deliver'd *Bethulia* and her distressed People by carrying away the dead Head of the *Assyrians* General; And this delivers the People of three Kingdoms from the *Slavery* and *Tyranny* of Usurpers, by bravely carrying away the living Head of these Three Kingdoms. It was for This that she couragiously *look'd Death in the Face*, and expos'd her Life and Fortune to the worst of Fates. It was for This that *Gold* was to Peasants of no other value than *Dirt*, when it was only to be purchased by delivering up the Innocent into the hands of the Guilty. But that which makes it the more remarkable and worthy of admiration, is, That God should make use of such Instruments to effect Your Preservation, as have now lately been Accused, Condemned and Sacrificed, for attempting to destroy You, whom (with the hazard of their Lives) they had formerly preserved. Nay, for this it was, that even the *Romish Priests* themselves were instrumental.

Sir, God took You out of the hands of your Enemies, at a time when all the world despair'd of seeing You seated on any other Throne than that on which Your Royal Father acted the last Scene of a Horrid and Bloudy Tragedy. Who can repeat the buying and selling of a King, the best that ever People had, and this by his own Vassals? his being accused by them? his being betrayed by them? his being judged by them? his being condemned by them? and his being murdered by them in the Face of Heaven and the whole World? Who (I say) can repeat these things without Horrour and Execration?

God miraculously delivered You out of the hands of *a barbarous people*, who sought you for no other end than *to destroy You*; but he mercifully with-held the blow which all the world believ'd was inevitably falling on You; for there was no one could avert it but God alone; And he did it, that we might one day see you *seated on the Throne of Glory*. 'Tis true, he with-held You from Us for some time; but it was that You might *return* the more glorious and welcome, and to make Us sensible of the ill was done in *banishing Him from us* whom God had appointed to Rule and Govern us.

I believe there are few alive now who liv'd then, who have forgotten *the Calamity this Kingdom groaned under at that time*, and the sad Catastrophe attended Your absence.

It was a sad thing to see *your 3 Kingdoms governed by the Murderers of your Royal Father*; to see *Mechanicks* seated in the Throne of *Princes*, and the giddy-headed *Mobile* to Lord it over the *Nobility*; *Coblers* and *Bricklayers* turn *Preachers*, whilst the Bishops have their Rockets pull'd over their ears, and the best of the Clergy turn'd out of their Benefices; at the same time their Wives and Children going a begging; to hear nothing but *Sedition* and *Treason* daily preached out of the Pulpits; to see the *Royal Party* dance attendance every day to a damn'd

damn'd Committee, made up of a Company of formal prick-ear'd Raskals, who had no other Religion than by siniſter ways to *monopolize the Riches of the Nation*, whilſt honeſt men turn'd Bankrupts; to ſee thoſe men who had ſerv'd the King your Father with their Bloud and Fortunes, by theſe Governours Baniſhed, Impriſoned and Tortured, and for no other Crime than becauſe they had the honeſty to be *Loyal*; to ſee the beſt of theſe men forced to buy their own Eſtates three or four times over of theſe Villains, who had ſeiz'd them as their own, whilſt others of the meaner ſort had not Bread to put in their Heads.

But God was pleaſed at his proper time to commiſerate our Sufferings, by out-doing his former Prodigies which were acted in your Preſervation, in reſtoring You to a People who lived with no other hope than deſpair of ever ſeeing You ſeated upon the Imperial Throne of *Great Britain*. Sir, 'tis undoubted Your Reſtauration was decreed by Heaven, and to confirm which, God (as it were with his own hand) led You into Your Kingdoms, that there You might be made Sacred, and have your Temples incircled with a Crown; and then it was he conſigned a Scepter into Your Sacred hand, with which at the ſame time he commanded You to Rule, and Govern your People in the ſtrict obſervance of Juſtice and Equity; and after that perfect Model which he himſelf hath left you, in his Sacred and Divine Laws, and not according to thoſe exorbitant Laws the ignorant Rabble, and their Abettors would preſcribe you.

What joy was it at that time to all true *Engliſh* hearts to ſee You *Return* in Triumph from your long *Exile?* to ſee You not only received into your Kingdoms, but into the hearts of Your People; who looked upon You as no other than *the Angel of Peace ſent by the living God to comfort an afflicted People, and to redeem them from Slavery?* It was then that we were all big with hopes no longer to ſee our Laws (which are the beſt in the world) trampled under foot by *Tyrannical Uſurpers*: It was then that we gave our ſelves the aſſurance that we ſhould ſee *Juſtice*, and *Mercy* equally poyſed in one Ballance, and neither to out-weigh each other: It was then that we expected to ſee Impiety baniſhed out of your Kingdoms, as an Impoſture, and Virtue rais'd to that Throne it deſerves, that is, *to be ſeated on the right hand of Kings*: And then it was that we believ'd that Loyalty ſhould nobly be rewarded for their Fidelity and paſt Sufferings; and the *Diſloyal Traytor* puniſhed, and for ever baniſhed from the Influence of your Bounty; the performance of which had eſtabliſh'd to Your People a Kingdom of *Peace*, and we ſhould have ſeen a *Golden Age* to flouriſh.

But, Sir, there are ſome men who are bold, and take leave to ſay, You have not poiſed the Ballance equal, and your Clemency and Mercy have infinitely out-weighed the Scale of Juſtice; That you have miſ-placed your Bounty; And (they now begin to fear) You have done that you ſaid you never would; Sacrificed your Friends to pleaſe your Enemies; And this they ſay hath alienated your Friends, and made their *Loyal hearts* grow cold, and freeze; And bold Mouths ſpit their Allegiance out. This hath ſo far prevailed upon your Enemies, as to perſwade them that their former ill-doings were well done, which makes them bold to act them over again. Sir, ſuch are their proceedings, that You appear no longer now as a King to govern the People, but as a Pupil to be governed by them. This makes us fear you have delivered your Royal Scepter into their hands; And if ſo, you have made your Self and Friends one Sacrifice to the Fury and Malice of your Enemies; So that we have nothing now in proſpect, but *the Old Tragedy acted over again*; where we behold a Stage filled with *Rapine, Sword, Fire, Blood* and *Maſſacres*; with the Deſolation and Overthrow of three Kingdoms.

*Dread Sovereign*, You are the Object on which all our eyes are fixed; You are the Center in which the hopes and deſires of all *Loyal hearts* are lodged. *Now is the time* to make your ſelf a King, and us a happy people, *or never*. If You put on an unſhaken Reſolution, You will encourage and ſtrengthen Your Friends to

ſtand

ſtand by you to the laſt; which we are reſolved to do, if you force us not from you; And this will not a little tame the Inſolency of thoſe bad men who brand all thoſe who ſtand up for your Rights and Prerogatives with that ſcandalous Name *Papiſt*. All thoſe honeſt Gentlemen who had a deſire to ſerve their Country, by being Parliament-men, becauſe they oppoſed the *Rump Faction*, they and all their Friends were *Papiſts*, *rank barefac'd Papiſts*. If theſe men can make us *Papiſts* at this rate, we ſhall have *Popery* among us before we know where we are; and really I think we have no great reaſon to be ſo much afraid on't; for 'tis come to that, that you ſhall not hear of an *honeſt Cavalier*, nay ſcarce an honeſt man but preſently he is a *Papiſt*.

Sir, you have been ſilent too long, therefore ſince You have given us your Royal word, *That our Laws ſhall be Your Rule and Meaſure, by which You are reſolved to Govern*, let us hear you roar like the King of Lions, when next you meet your Parliament; cry *ha!* to them, and *ha!* again, till (like your Predeceſſor *H.* VIII.) you make them tremble. Sir, remember you are as well King of *France* as *England*; therefore let not the *French* King be a greater Monarch than your ſelf: At leaſt for a time ſhew yourſelf as abſolute over your people as he is, and ſince that Law is Your Meaſure, like him tell them *ſic volo, ſic jubeo*, and take off the head of that man who ſhall dare to open his Lips to contradict it; And be aſſured that this way of Governing ſhall gain you more Friends in one day, than all your complyance to *the unreaſonable demands of your Parliament* ſhall gain you in an age.

Be pleaſed to take from the Commons that old Theme *Religion*, or elſe you muſt never expect any buſineſs to be done by them, either for the good of your ſelf, or your Kingdom. If we muſt have a *Change* or *Reformation* in our ſpiritual Government, let it be done by ſpiritual men, the Biſhops, and ſuch who underſtand what Religion is: But for ſuch men whoſe converſation is chiefly among Dogs & Horſes, Women and Wine, to be perpetually making new *Reformations* in Religion, is the moſt prepoſterous thing in the world.

What a monſtrous thing it is to ſee the Tail pretend to more Wiſdom and Underſtanding in Government than the Head! We have too ſadly experienced what it is to live under this dam'd *Rump Government*; therefore, for Heavens ſake, Sir, let us have no more on't.

Sir, as God was pleas'd to perform wonders at your Preſervation and Reſtauration, ſo hath he done no leſs all the time of your Government: For (ſetting aſide the precipice into which your Father fell, and in it was irrecoverably loſt, which ſtill lies open before the Gates of your Palace, ſo that 'tis not poſſible for You to enter in, or out, but you muſt neceſſarily *remember your Fathers ſad Fate*. The Peal that theſe men daily ring in your ears, which was your Fathers Knell: ) ſetting aſide, I ſay, theſe things: Heaven and Earth have conſpired daily to alarm you, and bid you arm your ſelf againſt the Treacheries and damn'd Conſpiracies, which are hourly acting againſt your Life and Government.

Sir, the firſt thing you are to do is to know your Enemies, and then to arm your ſelf againſt them: You cannot have forgotten thoſe men by whom your Royal Father fell, and purſued you to Baniſhment; Theſe are the men, Sir, who ſtrike ſo boldly at your Crown, therefore beware your Head: You cannot therefore perſwade your ſelf that the Murderers of the Father can ever love the Son. But leaſt your Majeſty ſhould miſtake theſe men, and think them to be your Friends, our famous *Salamancha* Doctor hath unmask'd them unto you; For he ſays, (and what he ſays with us is Goſpel) *That they are Papiſts in Maſquerade, diſguiſed in the Habit and Manners of the Godly Brethren*. So that 'tis to be hop'd your Majeſty will truſt none of them, nor any thing that looks like this kind of Cattle. We humbly therefore beg that the next Parliament you will take a view of your Houſe of Commons, that You may know the Members of which it is compos'd; and if there be any of theſe diſguis'd Papiſts there, that they may be *turn'd out*; that is not a place for them; for the Law ſays, *No Papiſt ſhall Sit in the Houſe*. If therfore there

there be any there who had their hands imbrewed in your Fathers bloud, they are diſguiſed Papiſts, they muſt *out* alſo. If there be any there who have unſheath'd their Swords againſt their lawful Sovereign, and appeared in *open Rebellion* againſt him, they are the ſame, they muſt out too; for they are all Papiſts in Maſquerade. Or if there be any of the Sons of theſe men, they are the ſame Fleſh and Bloud, and they'l prove themſelves no Baſtards i'l warrant you; they have ſuck'd in their Fathers *Diſloyalty* and bloudy Nature with their Milk, which'tis to be feared they will never diſgeſt ſo long as they have an hour to live; therefore Theſe muſt *out* too. And when the Houſe is thus purg'd of theſe kind of Cattel, we may hope to ſee good times again, and not till then; For believe it, Sir, they are are ſo glutted with the Spoils and Sweet of their *laſt Rebellion*, that they will now be *Ceſars* or nothing; which Heaven and your endeavours muſt prevent.

I could wiſh with all my ſoul that what the Prophet *Iſaiah* ſpoke of the Counſellors of King *Pharaoh* may not truly be verified in the people of this Nation. *God hath ſent among them a ſpirit of giddineſs, and made them reel up and down in all their actions like drunken men.*

Sir, great and terrible are the menaces which God thunders out by the mouth of holy *Job*, againſt thoſe who wander from the true way of Juſtice. *God* (ſays he) *ſuffereth theſe wiſe Counſellors to fall into the hazards of ſenſeleſs men. God maketh the Judges ſtupid, taketh away the Sword and Belt from Kings to ingirt their Reins with a Cord; God maketh the Prieſts to appear Infamous, ſupplanteth the Principal of the people, changeth the Lips of Truth-ſpeakers, taketh away the Doctrine of Old men, and powreth out Contempt upon Princes*, Job 12.

But that theſe things may not fall upon this Kingdom, and that they may be timely prevented, be pleas'd, Great Sir, to hear the Counſel that a great Stateſman gave to the Governours of the Empire; and it isthis:

*Uſe the matters ſo that Judges of Provinces may be very careful in the obſervance of Laws, that Tribunals ſpare not to thunder out Sentences againſt ill Manners, but eſpecially againſt* Falſe Witneſſes *and* Perjurers; *That Thieves may fear the Gates of your Palace; That the Adulterer may tremble before a chaſt Officer; That the Forgerer may feel horrour at the voice of a Herauld; And that all Crimes may be baniſhed from our Teritory; That no man oppreſs the poor; That the Perſecutors be aprehended and purſued as diſturbers of the publick repoſe: You ſhall make a general peace when you have beaten down the Authors of miſchiefs which are committed: Let Captains contain their Souldiers in all manner of Diſcipline in ſuch ſort that the Labourer, the Merchant, the Sailer, and Artificer, may underſtand Arms are not made but for their defence. I will not likewiſe that my neareſt Allies be pardoned in any caſe of Juſtice, ſince I have taken the Commonwealth into my charge, I have diſpoyled my proper Intereſts, I wiſh well to mine, but in the generality.*

Sir, when we ſhall behold theſe things practiced within your Dominions, we ſhall conclude that all theſe prodigies which have been done in your Preſervation and Reſtauration were performed by Heaven for no other end than that you ſhould be that darling Prince to make your Kingdoms flouriſh, and Us a happy people; which we all promiſe our ſelves, and that we ſhall ſee you the greateſt of Monarchs. It was to Princes that the Angel in the *Apocalypſe* ſpeaks theſe words: *He who ſhall overcome and keep my works unto the end, I will give him power over Nations, and he ſhall rule them with a Rod of Iron; and as the Veſſel of the Potter they ſhall be broken.*

VIVAT REX.

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